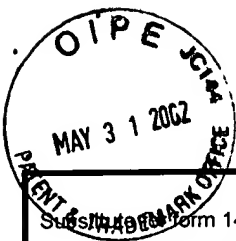


<b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b>  (Use as many sheets as necessary)				<b>Complete if Known</b>	
				<b>Application Number</b>	09/981,337
Sheet 1 of 5				<b>Filing Date</b>	October 16, 2001
				<b>First Named Inventor</b>	Shannon, Donald T.
				<b>Art Unit</b>	3738
				<b>Examiner Name</b>	Unknown
				<b>Attorney Docket Number</b>	VAS-5041DIV2

**U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initials*	Cite No.	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number - Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (If known)			
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\*Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup>See Kind Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov) or MPEP 901.04. <sup>3</sup>Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard St. 3). <sup>4</sup>For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup>Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard St. 16 if possible. <sup>6</sup>Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.



Subsidiary Form 1449A/PTO <b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b>  (Use as many sheets as necessary)				<b>Complete if Known</b>	
				Application Number	09/981,337
Sheet 2 of 5				Filing Date	October 16, 2001
				First Named Inventor	Shannon, Donald T.
				Art Unit	3738
				Examiner Name	Unknown
				Attorney Docket Number	VAS-5041DIV2

**U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initials*	Cite No.	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number - Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)			
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↑	AY	US-5,503,636	04/02/1996	Schmitt et al.	
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				<b>Application Number</b>	09/981,337
				<b>Filing Date</b>	October 16, 2001
				<b>First Named Inventor</b>	Shannon, Donald T.
				<b>Art Unit</b>	3738
				<b>Examiner Name</b>	Unknown
<b>Sheet</b>	3	of	5	<b>Attorney Docket Number</b>	VAS-5041DIV2

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		Office Code <sup>3</sup>	Number <sup>4</sup>	Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (If known)				
BP	CC	WO	82/01467		05/27/1982			
↑	CD	WO	88/00813		02/11/1988			
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<sup>1</sup>Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup>See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov) or MPEP 901.04. <sup>3</sup>Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard St. 3). <sup>4</sup>For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup>Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard St. 16 if possible. <sup>6</sup>Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.



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				Application Number	09/981,337
				Filing Date	October 16, 2001
				First Named Inventor	Shannon, Donald T.
				Art Unit	3738
				Examiner Name	Unknown
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Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document			Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T <sup>6</sup>
		Office Code <sup>3</sup>	Number <sup>4</sup>	Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (If known)				
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OTHER PRIOR ART – NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS			
Examiner Initials *	Cite No.	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	
Examiner Signature	Brian Pellegrino		Date Considered 5/2/03

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				<b>First Named Inventor</b>	Shannon, Donald T.
				<b>Art Unit</b>	3738
				<b>Examiner Name</b>	Unknown
				<b>Attorney Docket Number</b>	VAS-5041DIV2
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